HF Happenings

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23 to 27 - SARL Top Band QSO Party
Find the rules in the 2011 SARL Contest Manual

HAMFEST in NorthWest

KARK Presents:

Festival of Radio's and Electronics.

2011

The Klerksdorp ARC will be running Hamfest 2011 on 2 July at the Zerabi Lodge (S26 47 18.2 E26 55 15.8, just off the N12) between Klerksdorp and Potchefstroom. The event starts at 08:00 and includes a flea market, some lectures and the HABEX balloon launch.

The theme for HAMFEST in Northwest 2011 this year is to try and get the young people of to-day away from the couches and away from the TV sets and to show them what Amateur Radio is all about. The club has support from the Electronics department of the University Of North West to achieve one of its goals this year. Amateur Radio has the unique opportunity to promote friendships not only between countries but also between ourselves! Now is the best of times to promote and recruit new members to the hobby.

HABEX

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At the Klerksdorp Hamfest being held on 2 July 2011, the HA-BEX group will be launching a balloon for the occasion. The launch is scheduled for 08:00 and will be from the Klerksdorp airfield.

The payload consists of a controller that will be running APRS on 144.850. In addition, in the payload will be a cross band repeater and running APRS. This repeater replaces the Parrot repeater run during a previous launch and which was a great success. The cross band repeater RX is 145.850 and TX is 437.850. There are no tones.

The group is also planning to incorporate an HF beacon on 40 m as well as a further APRS unit transmitting on 144,800. However, these are still to be confirmed. Unfortunately, with the Hamfest being run at a different location, there will not be the normal Echolink and live streaming facilities of the past. The team will however endeavour to be on HF while mobile as well as the Cross Band repeater.

Listeners are welcome to call in as well as monitor the flight on www.aprs-za.com or www.aprs.fi .

To view more information on this project, please visit the HABEX web site at www.habex.za.net. The website will also be updated regularly during the course of the week leading up to 2 July.

African DX

Mozambique, C9. Operators Dave, ZR6DG, and Helge, ZS6HB, will be active as C92DG from the Timbavati Game Reserve in Tofo between 14 and 28 July. Activity will be on the HF bands. QSL via ZR6DG. Look for photos to be posted on QRZ.com

Djibouti, J2. John, F4FUC, will be active as J28UC from Djibouti starting in July and will stay there until 2013. Activity will be on 40 - 10 metres using a TS-480 with 100 watts into a vertical (20, 15 and 10 m) and dipole (40, 20 and 10 m) antenna. QSL via his home call sign.

Southern Sudan, ST0, (looking for more Operators!). Paul, N6PSE, Co-Leader for the DXpedition to Southern Sudan states, "I anticipate having 1 - 2 openings on our DXpedition team to the newly created country of South Sudan. We are targeting our start date to coincide with the admission of the country by the UN. Currently, the feeling is that may be mid-August 2011.

If you are a good CW or SSB operator, strong team player, have a sense of adventure, and would seriously consider going with us to Juba, South Sudan via Cairo, please contact me directly at paul@n6pse.com. We are taking the bulk of our gear with us. This is a well planned and well funded DXpedition. The focus will be on providing new ones and on having fun at the same time." The official Web site is at   www.dxfriends.com/SouthernSudan2011

June 1011

23 to 27 - SARL Top Band QSO Party
24 - Schools close
24 to 26 - Ham Radio 2011, Friedrichshafen, Germany
25 and 26 - ARRL Field Day; ; International Museum Weekend

July 2011
30 June to 10 July - National Arts Festival, Grahamstown
1 - SARL subscriptions due
2 and 3 - DL-DX RTTY Contest
3 - DARC 10-Metre Digital Contest
9 and 10 - IARU HF World Championship
16 - Winter QRP Sprint; PIC Course, Cape Town; Advanced Home Construction, Cape Town
17 Delville Wood Sunday
16 and 17 - North American RTTY QSO Party
16 and 17 - CQ Worldwide VHF Contest
18 July - Nelson Mandela's birthday; Schools open
24 - Boland ARC 40 Metre Sprint
27 - SARL 80 m Club Contest, SSB
30 - RTA, Durban
30 - Durban July Horse Race
30 and 31 - RSGB IOTA Contest

Benin, TY. A group of operators are planning to activate Grand Popo, Benin, between 5 and 14 August. They have the licenses in their hands and all the other permissions to enter and operate. The call sign will be TY1KS. Operators mentioned are Salvador, EA3QS, Giorgio, IZ4AKS, Fabri, IW3SQY, Francesco, IZ8GCE and Antonello, IT9YVO. Their DXpedition experiences are 1A3A, 1A4A, 3A, 3B8, 3B9, 5R8KS, C31CT, E44M, HV5PUL, T70A, T70DXC, UK8AXA and others locations.

Activity will be on all HF bands and 6 metres, using 3 three Elecraft K3s, and two Elecraft KPA500 new solid state amplifier. Due to the high demand for this country, the focus will be on the lower bands and the Digital modes, but also SSB and the higher band will be well worked especially during the TEP openings. QSL via IZ8IYX or by the OQRS (for direct/Bureau) and LoTW. Their Web site is still under construction, but you can still preview it at http://www.dxcoffee.com/ty1ks

The group is looking for sponsors for this DXpedition. Details for funding this operation are available on their Web page.

Guinea, 3X. Georg, DK7LX, Wolf, DL4WK, Sigi, DL7DF, Frank, DL7UFR, Jan, SP3CYY, and Leszek, SP3DOI, will be active as 3XY1D from Guinea between 18 October and 1 November. They will operate CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK31 and SSTV on 160 - 6 metres with several stations, one of them dedicated exclusively to the digital modes. QSL via DL7DF, direct or bureau. Further information at www.dl7df.com

Malawi, 7Q. Malcolm, GM3TAL will take part in the Scottish Scouts "New Horizons" expedition to Malawi (1-25 July), and plans to be active as 7Q7MH from the Malawi National Scout Campsite at Makwawa. Look for activity on 20, 17, 15, 10 and possibly 6 metres, using CW and SSB. QSL via G0IAS (direct only). The website for the expedition is at www.7q7mh.org

African Islands on the Air

Fuerteventura Island, AF-008. Alex, IW3SGT, will be active as EA8/IW3SGT from Fuerteventura Island between 21 June and 3 July. Activity will be during his evening hours on SSB and PSK. QSL via his home call sign, by the Bureau, eQSL (AG) and LoTW.

Special Event

Greece, SY2011. Special event station SY2011BVM is now active until 4 July. Activity is to celebrate the Special Olympics Games in Athens. QSL via Bureau, eQSL or direct to SV7BVM with a SASE. Also look for SY2011JJZ. QSL via SV7JJZ.

Greece, SY7. Members of the Xanthi's Radio Amateur Club TELETHRA, SZ7XAN will be active as SY7SOG during the Special Olympics Games until 4 July. Activity will be on all bands, 160 - 70 cm and all modes (SSB, CW, RTTY, PSK, SSTV etc). There will be a special QSL card which will be sent for all QSOs via the Greek QSL Bureau (arrangements are to be made).

New Zealand, ZM, Look for special event station ZM2KBR to be active between 1 September and 31 October. Activity is to promote the 2011 Rugby World Cup games. QSL via ZL2KBR, eQSL, by the Bureau or direct.

There is more to life than rugby!

History This Week

A look back at events that made history this week - compiled by the Summerland Amateur Radio Club of Lismore, NSW and Dennis, ZS4BS. The week starting Monday 20 June 2011.

1675 – The Royal Greenwich Observatory is established in England by Charles II
1797 - Charles Newbold patents the first cast-iron plough. He cannot sell it to farmers though; they fear the effects of iron on the soil
1837 - England issues its first stamp, 1-penny Queen Victoria *
1893 – The first Ferris wheel premieres at Chicago's Columbian Exposition
1919 – The first advanced monoplane airliner flight by a Junkers F13
1963 – The first demonstration of home video recorder at the BBC Studios in London
1982 – Himmy, a cat from Australia, weighs in at the domestic cat record of 20,7 kg or 45 lb

* I am not sure about the 1837 – England issues its first stamp.
The Penny Black - The world's first prepaid adhesive postage stamp
The Penny Black was the world's first prepaid adhesive postage stamp. It was issued on Wednesday 6 May 1840 and the Two penny Blue was issued on Friday 8 May 1840 early in the reign of Queen Victoria (b 1819), who reigned from 1837 - 1901, her portrait was used on the stamp as it would be more recognisable by the public. The portrait on the penny black is based on the Wyon city medal of 1837, which William Wyon modelled in 1834 when Princess Victoria was only 15. As this was the first postage stamp, the country name is omitted; a tradition continued with all the stamps of Great Britain, the identifying characteristic is the monarch's head, which always faces to the left on definitive stamps. The postal rate of one penny meant that a letter not exceeding half an ounce in weight could be sent to any part of the United Kingdom. The purpose of the stamp was to indicate that the postage had been prepaid. Before the invention of the stamp, the receiver paid the postage rather than the sender.

A postal delivery system had been in place since 1510 for the King's Post. The General Post Office was established in London in 1710. Prior to the uniform penny postage introduced on 10 January 1840, the postage depended on the distance travelled and the number of sheets of paper used (postal rates). In 1812, the rate for single letter was 4 pennies for a distance of not more than fifteen miles. A letter from London to Brighton cost 8 pennies, to Nottingham 10 pennies and over the Scots border to Edinburgh 1 shilling and 1½ penny, which was a days salary then. The receiver rather than the sender paid the postage and much effort was spent by the Post Office in collecting the money from a reluctant receiver. By prepaying the postage, the difficulty in collecting the money was reduced and money could be saved by the Post Office.

Rowland Hill (1795 - 1879) is the man usually connected with the postal reform. He was born in Kidderminster in 1795 and for a time he was a teacher. Hill published his most famous pamphlet "*Post Office Reform: its Importance and Practicability*" in 1837. Hill wrote in his reform plan about the need for pre-printed envelopes and adhesive postage stamps to indicate prepayment of postage. The sender paid the postage rather than the receiver. The Reform also called for a uniform low rate of one penny per half-ounce a letter to anywhere in the British Isles. The uniform penny postage was introduced on 10 January 1840, before stamps were issued on 6 May 1840. He worked for the Treasury between 16 September 1839 and 1843, he returned to office as Secretary to the Postmaster-General in 1846

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until his retirement in 1864, he was knighted in 1860 and died in 1879. The success of the Uni-form Penny Postage can be seen by the number of letters carried in the United Kingdom.

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 20 to 27 June 2011.

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint
00:30 - 02:30 UTC 22 June
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: (none)
Max power: <1 watt
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and NAQCC No or power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member
Multipliers: Each state, province or country once
Key Type Mult: 2x if straight key, 1.5x if bug, 1x if other
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult
Submit logs by: 2359Z June 25, 2011
E-mail logs to: naqcc33[at]windstream.net
Upload log at:
http://naqcc.info/sprintlog.html
Mail logs to: John Shannon, K3WWP
478 E. High St.
Kittanning, PA 16201
USA
Find rules at:
http://naqcc.info/sprint201106mw.html

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, SSB
19:00 - 20:30 UTC 23 June
Mode: SSB
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: (none)
Exchange: RS and Serial No
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 30 June 2011
Upload log at:
http://www.vhfcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl
Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:
http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2011/r80mcc.shtml

NCCC Sprint Ladder
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 24 June
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: (see rules)
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: June 26, 2011
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

VK/Trans-Tasman 160 m Contest, Phone
08:00 - 14:00 UTC 25 June
Mode: Phone
Bands: 160 m Only
Classes: Single Op; Single Op QRP; Multi-Op
Max power: non-QRP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Serial No
Work stations: Once per hour
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 0700Z July 16, 2011
E-mail logs to: vktasman[at]hotmail.com

Mail logs to: VK: VK/trans-Tasman Contest, 28 Crampton Crescent, Rosanna, VIC 3084, Australia

ZL: VK/trans-Tasman Contest, PO Box 21-363, Christchurch 8143, New Zealand

Find rules at: http://home.iprimus.com.au/vktasman/RULES.HTM

His Majesty the King of Spain SSB Contest
12:00 UTC 25 June to 12:00 UTC 26 June
Mode: SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op All Band; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Op
Exchange: EA: RS and province; non-EA: RS and Serial No
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: Each EA province once per band; Each EADX100 entity, except EA, EA6, EA8, EA9, once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 15 July 2011
E-mail logs to: smreyssb[at]ure.es
Mail logs to: URE HF Contests, PO Box 220, 28080 Madrid, Spain
Find rules at: http://www.ure.es/contest/431-sm-el-rey-contest-english-version.html

Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest
12:00 UTC 25 June to 12:00 UTC 26 June
Mode: RTTY, PSK63
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: SOAB (Low/High); SOSB (Low/High); MOMB
Max power: HP: >100 W; LP: 100 W
Exchange: UR: RST and 2-letter Oblast; non-UR: RST and QSO No
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: Each DXCC country once per band per mode; Each oblast once per band per mode
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 26 July 2011
E-mail logs to: urdigi[at]izmail-dx.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://www.izmail-dx.com/

Marconi Memorial HF Contest
14:00 UTC 25 June to 14:00 UTC 26 June
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op (QRP/Low/High); Multi-Op
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: RST and Serial No
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each CQ WW country once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: July 26, 2011
E-mail logs to: contest.marconi[at]arifano.it
Mail logs to: ARI sezioni di Fano, PO Box 35 Uff. P.T. via Garibaldi, I-61032 Fano (PU), Italy
Find rules at: http://www.arifano.it/Contest_Marconi.htm

ARCI Milliwatt Field Day
18:00 UTC 25 June to 21:00 UTC 26 June
Mode: CW, Phone, Digital
Bands: All, except 30, 17, 12 m
Classes: A: Club/non-club portable; B: One/two person portable; C: Mobile; D: Home; E: Home-emergency power; F: EOC
Exchange: ARRL Field Day Operating Class and ARRL/RAC section
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 1 points per SSB QSO; 2 points per CW/digital QSO
Multipliers: Each ARRL section once per band
Power Mult: >5W=x1, 1-5W=x7, 250mW-1W=x10, 55-250mW=15x, <55mW=20x
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total ARRL sections x power mult)
Submit logs by: 26 July 2011
E-mail logs to: contest[at]qrparci.org
Mail logs to: Milliwatt Field Day, c/o Jeff Hetherington, VA3JFF, 139 Elizabeth St. W., Welland, Ontario L3C 4M3, Canada

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Find rules at:
http://www.qrparci.org/content/view/6870/118/

ARRL Field Day: 18:00 UTC 25 June to 21:00 UTC 26 June
Mode: All
Bands: All, except 30, 17, 12 m
Classes: A: Club/non-club portable; B: One/two person portable; C: Mobile; D: Home; E: Home-emergency power; F: EOC
Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: W/VE: Number of transmitters (see rules), Operating class and ARRL/RAC section; DX: Number of transmitters (see rules), Operating class and "DX"
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points per CW/digital QSO
Bonus Points: see rules
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points and bonus points
Submit logs by: 26 July 2011
Post log summary at:
http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/fielddayentry.php
Mail logs to: Field Day Entries, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111, USA
Find rules at: http://www.arrl.org/field-day

Next Week's Contests

PODXS 070 Club 40 m Firecracker Sprint, 20:00 local 2 July to 02:00 local 3 July
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest, 11:00 - 17:00 UTC 3 July
10-10 Int. Spirit of 76 QSO Party, 00:01 UTC 4 July to 24:00 UTC, Jul 10
RSGB 80 m Club Championship, CW, 19:00 - 20:30 UTC 4 July
MI QRP July 4th CW Sprint, 23:00 UTC 4 July to 03:00 UTC 5 July
ARS Spartan Sprint, 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 5 July

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newsline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News, Southgate ARC and Pete's DX Newsdesk.

Newsletter editors are most welcome to use material from HF Happenings, just remember to acknowledge the source (which could be any one of the names mentioned above). HF Happenings can be provided in MS Word format.